# *Executive Proclamation*

## *State of South Dakota*

## *Office of the Governor*

***Whereas***, On March 1, 2008, a group of very committed bicyclists will come together at Chamberlain, South Dakota, to host the first South Dakota, day-long bicycle summit, bringing together citizens and government and community leaders interested in making the state and all communities within the state more bike friendly; and,

***Whereas***, This group of dedicated road and mountain bike cyclists will feature discussions on bike facilities, safety, education, health and wellness, bike tourism, and local bike culture; and,

***Whereas***, Bicycling is great for our health, it is fun for the entire family, it is an economic development tool, and it can be an alternative form of transportation; and,

***Whereas***, Improving opportunities for cycling creates so many opportunities for our state and its citizens; and,

***Whereas***, People who exercise regularly are healthier citizens and have a reduced risk of developing life-threatening illnesses like diabetes and heart disease; and,

***Whereas***, If there were more safe places to ride, there would be fewer cars, which means fewer gas emissions and cleaner air, resulting in improved respiratory systems for our citizens; and,

***Whereas***, Bicyclists are an integral part of our state's transportation system, and we need to work together to develop a better, more balanced transportation system that provides facilities and programs for bicyclists on a routine basis; and,

***Whereas***, In planning, designing, and operating our state's and city's transportation system and its related programs, the needs of all users, including bicyclists, should be considered; and,

***Whereas***, This South Dakota Coalition Summit is one step in a long journey to create a state where: residents can travel safely to parks, schools, neighborhoods, shopping areas, and community services on dedicated paths; dependency on the automobile is reduced; and healthy lifestyles are encouraged:

***Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds***, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim March 1, 2008, as

## *BICYCLE SUMMIT DAY*

in South Dakota.

***In Witness Whereof***, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Eleventh Day of February in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Eight.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

**Attest:**

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State